VIRGINIA KEEPS A LIVELY STEP TO THE MARCH OF PROGRESS AND MAKES HER PLANS FOR ANOTHER BIG YEAR'S WORK.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LYNCHBURG, VA., Dec. 31,-The past year has been for Lynchburg, one of steady progress and sure prosperity. In all probability the city has never known a season of more certain growth. Practically, there has not been a single assignment, and, so far as known, there is not a single store or business house in Lynchburg that is not now getting along nicely, while many of them are pushing ahead with remarkable success.

One of the most gratifying phases of Lynchburg's development is in the manufacture of shoes. As an experiment, two wholesale shoe houses a year or two ago began the manufacture of shoes, erecting for the purpose two immense factory The experiment has gone far enough to show that they are going to prove tremenduously successful, so much so that it is now a foregone conclusion that other factories of the same kind will be started here before many days. As a shoe market. Lynchburg is going right with every prospect of becoming one of the greatest shoe markets of the

country.

Lynchburg holds her own most satisfactorily as a tobacco market. The sale of leaf in the warehouses is on an average about the same that it has been for a great many years. While the absorption by great corporations of the smaller to-bacco factories has in the past twenty years closed up a number of tobacco manufacturing establishments in the city, the development of the leaf market and the location here of two immense plants have perhaps fully counterbalanced the loss. One of these plants is the cigar factory of the American Cigar Company, a branch of the American Tobacco Company. At first the company purchased the factory of N. R. Bowman & Co., one of the largest buildings here, but the increase of their busines was such that recently they were compelled to secure more space, and they have leased the big factory building formerly used by the Dental Snuff Company. The other plant is that of the Universal Tobacco Company and the Commonwealth Tobacco Company. They have secured one of the largest factory buildings in the city and recently they rented the building that was occupied by the wholesale drug house of Payne, Scay & Anderson. Mr. Robert J. Snead is general manager of the plant. The factory is fitted up with a most expensive and elaborate assortment of machinery, and jugging by the hustle and bustle that is seen in every department, the enterprise has before it a magnificent future.

seen in every department, the enterprise has before it a magnificent future.

Hancock Brgs. & Co., recently erected a large addition to their factory. De-spite strenuous competition and the of-fect of corporate combinations, this concern has more than held its own, and is turning out brands of tobacco that have a world wide reputation. There are other well-known tobacco plants here and other well-known tobacco plants here and

Lynchburg, however, does not rely upon

Lynchburg, however, does not rely upon any one branch of industry for its growth. In addition to shoes and tobacco, it has several splendid manufactories where great quantities of buggles and wagons and vehicles of all kinds are turned out. There is the Glamorgan Pipe and Foundry Company, an enterprise that stands in the front rank, and now it has a zealous rival in the Lynchburg Foundry Company, which is under the management of Mr. H. E. McWane and which is winning many laurels. The Lynchburg Cotton Mill, the Lynchburg Hoslery Company, several pianing mills, the Randolph-Macon Woman's College, the Piedmont Bustress College, the Virginia Christian College, the bark mills of John H. Heald & Co., several barytes mills, several flour mills, the Stamford Dye Works, a score or more of wholesale grocery houses, several wholesale notion houses, wholesale liquor houses, Lynchburg Box Factory, the gas and electric plants of the Lynchburg Traction and Light Company and many other enterprises are in flourishing condition.

Taken altogether Lynchburg has every reason to feel gratified at the record of 1003 and the city is fully justified in looking forward to 1994 with the assurance of even greater prosperity.

NORFOLK.

Virginia's Great Seaside City

Making Long Strides. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NORFOLK, VA., Dec. 31.—Nowhere clee in the State, perhaps, has the devolupment of the manufacturing possibilities of any one section been so marked as hereabout during the past year.

The Ornamental Iron Works, of Chat-

What Shall We Have for Dessert?



a delicious and healthful dessert, Prepared in two minutes. No boiling! no baking! add boiling water and set to cool. Flavors:—Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. Get a package at your grocers to-day, no cts

Forward March is the Command.

PROGRESS FROM SEA TO MOUNTAIN

Small Tobacco Markets Alone Report Diminution of Business Because Crops Are Not Sold.

MANY NEW ENTERPRISES HAVE BEEN PUT ON FOOT

The Cities Have Made Long Strides in the Direction of Manufacturing, Norfolk and Lynchburg Being Particularly Fortunate in Number of Enterprises.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Innoogn, Teim, Is one of the big plants that have moved here during the past year, in order to avail itself of the transported that have moved here during the past year, in order to avail itself of the transported to the factory of this concern is located on the Belt Line Rallway, which is national ways, which is national string the year is doing a larger for the large industries to come during the year just past. This plant is the stip rallway and repair plants of the facilities during the year, as have the ship rallway and repair plants, of which there are many hereabouts.

The rebuilding of the enter plant at the Scabord Alr Line Rallway's main achievement in the industrial world and are again in use, employing a larger force than ever before and equipped with the most modern facilities for handling almost any quantity of work.

The Merchants' and marmers' Peanut Company has erected on the Belt Line Rallway a great peanut cleanling plant to the largest of the Kind in the world. It ships its products East and West, and the export trade is by no means inconsiderable.

Immediately opposite this plant is the site just purchased by the F. S. Roystor

the export trade is by no means inconsiderable.

Immediately opposite this plant is the site just purchased by the F. S. Royster Guano Company for the erection of a great manufacturing plant for the conversion of the valuable by-products of its many plants scattered throughout the South into marketable shape.

Newport News and Portsmouth capitalists are also moving to build a browery. It is anticipated that their plants will materialize early in the year.

Mr. John Tyler Dickson, a former resident of Norfolk, where he was born skety-three years ago, died in New York on the 20th Instant. He was laid to rest in Mount Hope Cemetery, that city, at noen to-duy.

at noon to-day.

Mr. Dickson had many friends and acquadniances in Portsmouth and Norfolk.
He was a brother of Mrs, Eugenia D,
Murdaugh, of Portsmouth.

FREDERICKSBURG.

Municipality and People Have Caught Spirit of Improvement.

Municipality and People Have Caught Spirit of Improvement.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Dec. 31.—
The year just closing has been one of the most prosperous in the history of this city. Nat only has the city itself made substantial advancement in the line of paved streets and granolithic sidewalks, but individuals have caught the spirit and have improved their premises. Especially is this notlecable in stores of the principal branches of trade, owned by the lending merchants. These improvements have been so pronounced that Fredericksburg now compares favorably in its culpiment and conveniences with other cities twice and three times its size.

Among the city's advantages are its geographical situation at the head of tidewater, with water transportation to Chesapeake Bay and a line of sfeamers plying between this city and Norfolk, touching at all intermediate points, with two railronds, one the great trunk line connecting the North and the South, known as the Washington-Southern, and the other, the Potomac, Fredericksburg and Piedmont, connecting with the Southern and Chesapeake and Ohic Railroads at Orange. The city draws trade from a large surrounding country, which comes not only by steamboat and railreads, but by private conveyances from every direction.

It has city water works, city electric light plant, city gas works, city sewerage, a spiendid public school system and a first-class college, unsurpassed telephon facilities, with the long distance connection, cwned by the Bell system, and taxable values are increasing each year. Its manufacturing enterprises are substantial and varied, including a silk mill, woolen mill, spoke works, wagon works, pickle factories, canning factory, excelsion mills, flour mills, tannery, sumaand extract works, shirt factory, shoe factory, foundries, ice factories and a number of cther smaller plants.

All of these manufacturing establishments have done well in 1003, and are now in a thrifty condition. The merchants did a larger volume of business th

reased prosperity.

BRISTOL.

The Border City One of the Most Progressive in Whole State.

Progressive in Whole State.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BRISTOL, VA.-TENN., Dec. 31.—The
advantageous location of Bristol, Va.Teum, with reference to distribution, has
brought it rapidly into prominence within
the past few years as both a commercial
and industrial center. The rapid develcomments in the coal fields and at the
iron mines, as well as in the great forcuts of timber, has opened to Bristol an
inviting field, and the enterprising business men and manufacturers have not
lost the opportunity.

ness men and manufacturers have not lost the opportunity.

Within five years the volume of bust mess has increased at least by five times, ness has increased at least by five times. Bristol being the headquarters of the Virginia fron, Coal and Coke Company, the Virginia and Southwestern Railway Company, The Seuth and Western Railway Company, The Seuth and Western Railway Company, and other important companies, has had every advantage in the way of a stimulus to industrial enterprise.

The two banks are in a flourishing continuous with money for all the demands of trade.

There are no yacant houses and buildings are continually going up regardless prise.

New industrial plants and new commercial houses have arisen, and for at least five years it has been one continuous march of prosperity. The business streets have been paved, granolithic side walks have been excluded to every part of the city, and many other convenience have been provided, including the safeguard of a well equipped fire departs.

Ings are continually going up regardless of the weather.

The postoffice shows increased receipts and business.

MARTINSVILLE.

Year Marked by Establishment Mammoth Tobacco Concern.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

by Anderson and Cowan; James Strong Limber Company's plant, with a capacity of 10,000 feet daily; J. A. Wilkenson's exclusive lumber yards and weadoworking plant; Adams Bros. Company, wholesal building interin'd eclavers; Spatzen particles and Company, wholesal building interin'd eclavers; Spatzen particles and Company, wholesal building interin'd eclavers; Spatzen particles and coveralis factory etc. Among the company, high will establish a modern lee plant. The principal street in the Company, which will be put the companies just organized in the Crystal lee Company, which will be put the Company, which will be put the company, which will establish a modern lee plant. The most of which company will have an annual control of the plant, which will be put the pattern of the most wonderful enterprises of the spat year is an associated by the company will be severy indication that Bristot has another presperous year just ahead.

STAUNTON.

A Year of Prosperity, With New Enterprises and Enlargement. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

STAUNTON.

A Year of Prosperity, With New Enterprises and Enlargement. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

STAUNTON. Val., Dec. 31.—Staunton's prosperity during the past year is an astallished fact, and all of her enterprises have doubled their compactity to meet the organization of the prospersion of the prospersion of the prospersion of the most year, and half old, which has worked that at least twenty million pounds will be sold on the warehand the prosperity, work is progressing rapidly on the front and the compact of t

STAUNTON, VA., Dec. 31.—Staunton's prosperly during the past year is an astablished fact, and all of her enterorisas have made rapid strides towards success in several instances the larger industries. have doubled their capacity to meet the

The Putnam organ factory, one of the The Putnam organ factory, one of the largest manufacturing plants here, has increased its force nearly double during the last year, and still the demand upon this company for its musical instruments is so great that they are far behind in orders.

The Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company's new branch, which began active

The Virginia-Carolina Chemical Com-pany's new brunch, which began active operation here a year ago, has gradually increased its capacity and when the spring season opens will very near double its force at the works. They are working

chout 150 hands at present. The White Star Mills, with its capacity

about 150 hands at present.

The White Star Mills, with its capacity of two hundred barrels per day, is running both night and day and distributing, as fast as the ears can be secured, its flour in all parts of the country.

The Staunton Overall Company, which has some of the richest capital in this section behind it, is working increased forces and will have to build an addition to their factory in the near future in order to meet the demand for their goods. Mr. Fulton, of the firm, has just returned from the West, where he made very large sales.

The banks have made a splendid showing within the last year.

The Staunton National Bank with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars has recently been established.

The Augusta National has recently made a number of improvements in their bank. This building, which is a large three-story brick, was some eighteen months ago purchased for \$18,000.

The new National Valley Bank building with be ready for occupancy within a few weeks. This is a handsome building and

... be ready for occupancy within a few recks. This is a handsome building and has been under construction about eight

The Farmers and Merchants Bank has recently elected Mr. C. R. Caldwell pres-ident and is prospering.

CHARLES CITY.

Manufacturing Interests Very Active and Progress Marked. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.).

CHASE CITY, VA., Dec. 31.—Along general lines this has been a fairly prosperous year. Business has been uni-

perous year. Business has been uniformly good.

The Kershaw Company, Incorporated, has increased its capital, enlarged its plant and the orders for bobbins, spools and everything made of wood for cotton machinery, sold in advance as rapidly as turned out. This is an important enterprise and under experienced and skilled management.

This and under experience assets in an agement.

The Chase City Manufacturing Company, Incorporated, has sold this year over 4,700 wagons and other vehicles, added largely in buildings and machinery and employs over one number among the wagons are shipped to nearly every State.

State.

The Virginia Furniture Company, incorporated with \$20,000 capital, has erected commodious buildings, equipped with modern machinery, an artesian well, and a supply of seasoned timber; will commence operations in January, 1904. Engagements have been made to sell the entire output.

tire output.

A brick building for the town hall, postoffice and other rooms, recently completed office and other rooms, recently completed and furnished at a cost of about \$7,000, would be a credit to a large city. A military company has been organ-ized and mustered in the scryice and has

ized and mustered in the service and has been supplied by the government with modern breech-loading rifles and all of the accourtements for a company. The town provides a brick building for storage and preservation of its equipments. A disastrous lire occurred in October, but the insurance was ample and the vacant lots are now having erected on them more substantial and creditable buildings. The burned district will be more attractive than formerly. The sales of leaf tobacco have increased over previous years.

Years.
The T. E. Roberts Company, Incorporated, ships tobacco to Europe and some

to Asia.
Telephones connect with all important points and lines will be extended.
Alacadamizing the streets will be done next year and electric lights are in contemplation with an electric plant already

have been provided, including the safeguard of a well equipped fire departiment.

The year, from the standpoint of building, has been a most successful one. New and commodious structures of brick and stone, now line the principal streets, including new store and office buildings, hotek and a handsome new union passenger station. These improvements cost several, hundred thousands of dollars. The architects say that, judging from the plans already applied for, and for the numerous inquirles, the year 1901 bids fair to be a fine building year also.

Within five years Bristol has doubled her oppulation, having now a population of about 15,000. To her industries there have been added a number of substantial concerns. Among the most important enterprises to have been completed in 1903 are the following:

Ordway Manufacturing Company's plant, at a cost of \$100,000; Extract plant, as a cost of \$100,000; Extract plant, as a gaddition to Dizic tannery; Cannery,

ROANOKE.

The Most Prosperous Year in the History of the Magic City.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch. ROANOKE, VA., December 31.-The past year has been the most prosperous

past year has been the most prosperous in the history of the Magic City. All the enterprises, with the exception of one the cotton mill, have increased the cancity of their plants and capital stock. The high price of cotton shut down the cotton mill.

The Virginia Bridge and Iron Company, one of the largest enterprises in the city, expended about \$50,000 in improvements of the plant, and increased the capital stock \$100,000. The company builds bridge all over the country, has creeted several in foreign lands, and is now the only bridge company in this country bidding on a bridge for the Chinese Government. The Stone Printing and Manufacturing Company, owners of one of the largest printing plants in the South, added to their building and put in \$30,000 of new machinery.

their building and put in \$30,000 of new machinery.

The Evening World added \$12,000 of improvements in new machinery; the Norfolk and Western has spent over \$100,000 improving yard facilities, and the Street Railway and Electric Company which passed into new hands this year. has spent about \$100,000 on equipment, power-house, park and casino. The Virginia Brewing Company has made a \$25,000 addition to its plant.

Three now enterprises have been added during the year—a large candy factory, silk mill and hoslery mill—all of which have done well.

silk mill and hoslery mill—all of which have done well.

Over \$300,000 have been spent on new buildings. A new building has been creeted for the Railroad Young Men's Christian Association at a cost of \$15,000. Trinity Methodists have erected a new church building at 1200,255 for \$30,000. Five large storehouses have been creeted on the principal business streets. The Elke' Home has been completed at a cost of \$30,000, and over two hundred new dwell-

SYDMOR

HUNDLEY

Leaders in

Values

At the close of what we hope

has been a gratifying year for

us, we beg to extend our thanks

to our legion of customers for

their very liberal patronage, assuring them of our gratitude,

and earnest intentions to give in the future, as in the past, our best efforts to secure for them the very best values in furniture at the least possible cost

Permit us to extend the "Compliments of the Season"

A Very Merry Christmas

And Happy New Year.

Broad Street.

to them.

SYDNOR

HUNDLEY,

AND...

ARD...

Has New and Flourishing Manufactories—Prosperous Year.
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
RADFORD, VA., Dec. 31.—Radford is
forging ahead slowly, but surely. The
year of 1903 has been a good one for the
rown, and the prospects for 1904 are
bright and promising. All of her plants
are in active operation except the iron
furnace, which closed down for repairs
a few weeks ago, and a number of new
industries will shortly be opened.
The most important of these is the
Radford-Portsmouth Veneering Company,
which will open shortly after January
ist for the manufacture of veneer and
thin cut lumber. Capital of Radford
branch, \$30,000; number of employes,
about forty. They have in their yards
severa's hundred thousand feet of poplar lumber.

lar lumber.

Another new enterprise is the New River Sandstone Brick Company, composed of capitalists from the Flat Top coal fields. The capacity of the plant will be 20,000 bricks daily, manufactured from line and sand by steam process. Their plant is being erected on the farm of Judgo George E. Cassell.

Still another new factory is the Morgan-Fratt Manufacturing Company, an

gan-Pratt Manufacturing Company, an Oblo concorn, for the manufacture of butchers' skowars, hammer and sledge handles. This firm has orders five years ahead, and will do a thriving business.

Among the old firms are the Glamorgai Pipe and Foundry Company, the Theres Iron Furnace, the Radford Water Powe Company, the Radford Industrial Works 'ompany, all of which close a prosperous

The general prosperity of the town is evidenced by the substantial brick business blocks creeted during the year, the fact that there are no empty houses in town, and other unmistakable signs of prosperity. Both wards have a first-class, up-to-date hote, with a large comclass, up-to-date hote, with a large com-mercial patronage. St. Albans maintains its old high standard, and there is a wakening up in the public schools and churches. The Southwest Virginia Agri-cultural and Live Stock Association's exhibits have added to the prestige of the town, and, on the whole, the prosects for 1904 are most encouraging.

BEDFORD CITY.

Good Year's Business and Large Enterprises for the Future.

Enterprises for the Future.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BEDFORD CITY, VA. Dec. 31.—The
volume of business, for 1933 is the largust
in the history of Bedford. The postoffice receipts will amout to over \$14,000—larger than those of some Virgina
citles of 10,000 population, and two and
three times as large as those for towns
or similar size. Accordingly a bill for a
\$50,000 public building has been offered
in Congress.

in Congress.
The totals at the local banks exceed previous years by many thousand dol-lers, especially notoworthy being the increase of deposits by farmers of the

Increase of deposits by farmers of the county.

The output of the smoking and cigar factories is the largest on record, as is the amount of leaf sold at the three local warehouses.

In new enterprises the location here of the fiberizing plant of the American Ashestos Company gives promise of large development. High grade amphibole ashestos is mined ten miles from Bedford C.ty and is being hauled here for manufacture at the plant now in course of censtruction. An electric line or tramrad is inevitable.

In the summer the new canning factory of H. M. Johnston distributed many thousand dollars to farmers and empileyes.

ployes.

Six rural free delivery routen emanating from the Bedford postoffice have been established during the year.

The-Frazer Paint Company will add \$30,000 additional capital with the New

Year.
The Bedford Grocery Company, for wholesale exclusively, is announced for January 1st.
But the development of greatest pub-

lic interest is the establishment here of the National Home of the great and powerful Order of Elks, the dedication of whose building in May brought many distinguished orators and many hundred

A new era has dawned for Bedford in the development of its resources of tim-ber, minerals and the small things whose aggregate makes the wealth of a people.

SOUTH BOSTON.

Largely Increased Business and Tobacco Sales Doubled.

Tobacco Sales Doubled.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SOUTH BOSTON, VA., Dec. 31.—The volume of business for the last twelve months has outstripped all previous years in the history of the town. The five banks have made money, and will have the usual dividends for stockholders.

There have been rapid strides in buildings for business purposes, and many elegant residences have been creeted. The Virginia Vehicle Company erected during the year an immense factory for the manufacture of carriages and buggles. The wagon factories, planing mills and brick-yards have been kept busy all the time, made money. There have been two failures, however, of some magnitude.

This is a tobacce town, and nearly all business is based on the sales of the weed. During the year 1903, nearly twee as many pounds were sold than in any previous year. Fifteen Million pounds at an average of over nine cents. All tobacce warchousemen are looking favorably to 1904, from present indications it is generally believed that over 20,000,000 pounds will be sold. New territory is being canvassed with bright prospects.

be sold. New territory is being canvassed with bright prospects.

There are six large brick sales houses, an increase of one during the year. The prospects for traffic in every department was never brighter than it is just

ALEXANDRIA.

Remarkable March of Progress

Consider March of Progress

During 1903.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

ALEXANDRIA, VA., December 31.—
Within the past year the city of Alexandria has witnessed more improvements than in any ten years of its history. The old business enterprises are in a flourishing condition, and many new ones have been formed, chief among these be-

ing the Alexandria National Bank, the capital of which is \$100.000.
One of the finest proporties in the city has been nurchased for the nome of the new institution, and the directors are expending \$20,000 in improvements upon it.
Four or five hundred acres of land just outside of the city have been recently purchased by the several rallroad companies, and it is their intention in the near future to creet a union depot and greatly enlarge their yards.
The United States Government has expended \$60,000 in citarging the government building here, and when completed it will be one of the finest, for the size of the city, in the United States.

King Street, the business center of the city, in the United States.
The Robert Porture Brewing Company has purchased the old cotton factory and has expended \$50,000 in making it the largest bottling establishment in the country.
The depth of water in the channel of

has expended \$50,000 in making it the largest bottling establishment in the country.

The depth of water in the channel of the Potomac from this city to the Cherapeake Bay has increased from eighteen to twenty-six feet, so that now the largest ocean vessels can come to this port.

When the new from bridge that the Pennsylvania Railread Company is constructing across the Potomuc, and the highway bridge which the government is going to construct, are complete, it is the Intention of the electric railway to double track its road to the bridge and run trains between this city and Washington every ten minutes.

KEYSVILLE.

Largest Town in Charlotte Does Credit to the Country.

Credit to the Country.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

KEYSVILLE, V.A., Dec. 31.—Keysville is the largest town in Charlotte county, with a population of about one thousand, is midway between Richmond and Danville, on the Southern Rullroad. The town is built up with substantial Drick stores, many of which will compare favorably with those of some of our itrge-cities. There are two large tobacco ware-houses, and a fine market for leaf tobacco. A planing and finishing mill does a large business, and during the past six months the Keysville Plow Works have built a large foundry and already the demand for their manufactured goods is greater than the supply. Keysville has two high fine deducational institutions—the "Virgitin The Keysville Mission and Industrial School." for the colored people. The town coffers great inducements to any one wishing to entage it, the manufacturing usiness, and sufficent land will be donated for churches—Episcopal, Methodist, Baptist and two colored churches. The merchants do a large supply business, and the contract sensity purposes.

A well applied and two colored churches. The merchants do a large supply business, and the farms are self-supporting.

A well and spring of very valuable informer and water has been recently discovered for the current of dyspepsia, kidney and stomach troubles, and are known as "The Keysville Toule Springs." under which not be developed, and a large hotel will soon be opened for guests.

PULASKI.

Coal for Local Consumption to be Mined Inside the Town.

OF Mined Inside the Town.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PULASKI, VA., Dec. 31.—Business in Pulaski during the past year has been exceptionally good. Several new buildings have been erected and a large amount of real estate has been sold at good prices. Several coal mines have been opened, and in the near future the supply of coal necessary for home existingtion will be mined within the corporate limits of the town.

town.
The business outlook for next year very bright.

BLACKSTONE.

Great Strides Have Been Made. Many New Buildings.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BLACKSTONE, VA., Dec. 31.—Blackstone ha senjoyed great success during
the past year, and is justified in expecting
even greater strides during they next twelve months. The bank reports show a large increase of business. The merchants report a pros

of business. The mercants report a pros-perous year, and manufactories have been kept busy and largely increased their outputs. Much building has been done both of business houses and private res-idences. A fine brick business block has taken the place of a wooden row dustroy. ed by fire in February. The handsomess residences in the town have bleen con-structed during the present year. A new Presbyterian Church has been completed,

and a new Methodist Church begun. The large schools here show an increased en-rollment over last year, and the popula-tion has grown very considerably. A wholesale house has been established and the general volume of trade largely in

creased.
This year's growth in all lines has exceeded that of any previous year.
For the new year greater strides will be made than even tals year has shown. Already plans are being made for hand-some buildings, and enterprises are being considered, with every hope of a success-ful outcome, which will make the year one of unusual importance.

CULPEPER.

Many Municipal as Well as Private Improvements.

vate Improvements.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CULPEPER, VA., December 31.—Culpeper for the past twelve months has made gubstantial progress. During that time there have been added its splendid new postofilee, the new addition to the Mothodist Church. Mr. C. J. Rixey's fine new business building, Mr. William Robertson's handsome and modern residence, Mr. E. L. Yancey's carriage factory, and general business houses and other large public buildings, and a score of fine new residences, of which the above are but a few samples. Then its long line of just completed public sewers, helping most materially to make Culpeper, as she is shown to be by the govors, helping most materially to make Cul-peper, as she is shown to be by the gov-ernment statistics at Washington, D. C., the second healthiest place in the United

the second healthlest place in the United States.

Its new and costly system of electric lights, built by the Construction Company of Richmond, Va. The system includes the large arc, incandescent and commercial and residence lights. Their there is the new and modern municipal building, with Mayor's office, Council chamber and fire department. This building was finished this week.

One of the chief contemplated improvements for the coming year is the erection of a large lee plant in connection with the present electric light plant by the owners of the latter. Also there is in prospect in the near future the building of a slik mill, and other industries are now in process of development.

ONANCOCK.

Land and Water Give Forth a Fine Increase in Accomac.

Greefal to The Times-Disnatch.)
ONANCOCK, VA., Dec. 31.—The year
about closing has been a prosperous one.
The yield of the crops was an average,
and high prices, as a rule, prevailed.
Water products, fish, oysters and game
also sold well. The gross receipts of the
county from land, and, water was

water products, itsn, oysters and game also sold well. The gross receipts of the county from land and water was something over three million dollars.

The Produce Exchange did a business of one million four hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

thousand dollars.

Farms are being divided and improvements can be seen on every side. During the year at least four hundred houses have been built, at an average cost of \$1,000. Land is advancing in price, and the farmer can be said to be at home.

There are seventy-four postoffices, in the county, twenty-five of which issue money orders. The public schools have one hundred and forty-five teachers employed.

ployed.
The last bank statement showed about seven hundred thousand dollars subject to check.

to check.

A trolley line from Onancock to Accounce, and probably to Wachapreague, via Onley, is looked for the coming year. The business for it is here, and its construction cannot be longer delayed. Indications point to another favorable year. More extensive preparations than ever are being made by the farmers.

WARRENTON.

A Horse Market for Fine Steppers at High Prices.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
WARRENTON, VA., Dec. 31.—Warrenton, though chiefly noted for its social advantages, has of recent years been making wonderful and progressive strides in the development of its business interests.

The old year of 1903 has been notably a prosperous one.
The installation of electricity by the

(Continued on Ninth Page.,



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